Airedale Methodist Circuit
in the Yorkshire West District

NEWSLETTER MAY 2025

This month's letter is written by Chris Partington:

'Time and tide waits for no man'

I grew up in the borderlands of Lancashire and Yorkshire, in an area called Saddleworth, a collection of a number of villages, technically in Yorkshire but on the Lancashire side of the Pennines. One of the lovely things about growing up in an area like Saddleworth is the rhythm of the various community and Church events through the year. This cycle of events repeats every year and, over a number of years, the events themselves become a way of marking the passing of time. I still go back for some of these events where old friendships are renewed and people reminisce about times past as well as catching up the moving on of time. It is also a time to remember those that have passed and are no longer with us. In a sense it is almost as if time 'concertinas' and the passing of the year in between feels nothing like a year. Over time, the events have changed. There are still common elements but, as the world in which we live has changed, the events have had to adjust to fit that changed world. Sometimes it has been change envisioned but someone who can 'see what is coming' but, unfortunately, sometimes the change has been brought about by a tragedy or threat that has happened at the event. In these instances, the changes have inevitably involved pain.

I've recently been reading a book by Catherine May, entitled 'Wintering'. Its subtitle is 'The power of rest and retreat in difficult times'. It isn't a religious book in the traditional sense but can certainly be regarded as a spiritual book. It talks about the process of leaves falling from trees in the Autumn.

But even as the leaves are falling, the buds of next year's crop are already in place, waiting to erupt again in spring. Most trees produce their buds in high summer, and the autumn leaf fall reveals them, neat and expectant, protected from the cold by thick scales. We rarely notice them because we think we're seeing the skeleton of the tree, a dead thing until the sun returns. But look closely, and every single tree is in bud.

The tree is waiting. It has everything ready. It's fallen leaves are mulching the forest floor, and its roots are drawing up the extra winter moisture, providing a firm anchor against seasonal storms. Its ripe cones and nuts are providing essential food in this scarce time for mice and squirrels, and its bark is hosting hibernating insects and providing a source of nourishment for hungry deer. It is far from dead. It is, in fact, the life and soul of the wood. It's just getting on with it quietly. It will not burst into life in the spring. It will just put on a new coat and face the world again.

The proverb "Time and tide wait for no man" is attributed to Geoffrey Chaucer, and it first appeared in his Prologue to the Clerk's Tale around 1395.

The phrase emphasizes the inevitability of times passage and the importance of not delaying actions.

The phrase is a traditional saying, with its roots in an older phrase dating back to, perhaps, around 1225.

As it feels as if the leaves continue to fall from Methodism around Airedale and West Yorkshire, where are the buds? The buds may well already be there hidden in plain view if we only but look hard enough.

Chris Partington

Included in this newsletter are some letters and articles from the Spring District Newsletter – If you're reading this on a screen, you can read the rest of it here!

Yorkshire West Methodist District

ORDINATION INFORMATION:

Rev. Tracy's Testimony Service will be at Pontefract Central Methodist Church (WF8 1NB) 7.30pm on Tuesday 17th June.

The Ordination Service will then be at 4pm on Sunday 29th June at All Saints Church, Wellington, Telford (TF1 1DG).

Guests are welcome at either to support her - please book your tickets for the ordination service here (or contact Esther in the office for help with this)

There will be an opportunity to watch the services online if you prefer - I will share the links nearer the time.

HELP WANTED!

We are looking for volunteers to help with Wesley Life Path schools event!

16th-19th June 2025. 9am - 3pm each day.

You could volunteer either for a day, or a few days.

We will need a few people making refreshments in the kitchen.

We will also need people to lead groups of Children

Wesley life path aims to teach children aged 8-9 years old about the legacy of John Wesley - many of us had a taster at the Circuit Service in February!

It has been successfully run across the district and we are thrilled that we get to bring it to Airedale.

Please contact Pippa Lupton for more information :)



Please also note that our Zoom links have changed...
If you would like to join the weekly Monday morning Circuit prayers at 9.15am, please use these details:
Meeting ID: 930 6500 8118
Passcode: 584710

WE WON'T BE MEETING ON BANK HOLIDAYS

WHAT'S ON IN MAY?

'Focus on funerals' session:

This is an opportunity for any Local Preacher, Worship Leader or anyone else interested to explore how to take a funeral.

12th May, 7pm

at the New Place, BD22 6AA

No booking needed, just turn up!

Dementia Friendly Keighley

Dementia Friendly Keighley - Oakworth Hub
at Oakworth Methodist Church

Every Thursday 10.00-12.00
Come along and join us for coffee and a chat. Various activities available

Everyone welcome

PIES, PEAS & PUDDING

with home-grown entertainment

3RD MAY, 5PM

SILSDEN METHODIST CHURCH



ALL ARE WELCOME

Please sign up in the church to say you're coming and if you're bringing a pudding! (But if you're not signed up, you won't be turned away!)

Craven Church

Part of the Airedale Methodist Circuit

DO YOU BELIEVE THIS?

Starting with the Easter story, join us as we explore Bible stories that raise questions - digging into their context, various perspectives and the assumptions we may have made along the way.

@ THE ELDWICK CHURCH
WEDNESDAYS AT 7.30PM
23RD APRIL
30TH APRIL
7TH MAY
14TH MAY
21ST MAY

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO ELDWICK FOR HOSTING US, THIS COURSE IS OPEN TO ANYONE.

Led by Pippa 07904867829 and Rev'd Emma 07704 679094

THE ELDWICK CHURCH

Praise Services around the Circuits

2nd Sunday of the month
6pm
The Eldwick Church, Bingley BD16 3EQ

3rd Sunday of the month
6pm
Trinity St. Andrews, Skipton, BD23 2EA

4th Sunday of the month
6pm
Silsden Methodist Church, BD20 0PA

christian aid

11-17 May 2025

Christian Aid Week

Will you help fund vital tools and training, so farmers can support their community to escape hunger?

MOOV PERFORMING ARTS DANCE • PILATES

Pilates Classes



Wednesdays- Eldwick Church- 9:30am

Wednesdays- Lees Methodist Church- 6:00pm

Fridays- West Lane Baptist church, Haworth- 9:30am

07863791603
moovwithoona@gmail.com
Booking is essential

Please keep this page!
If information needs to be updated, a new version will be sent out in a future

Opportunities to pray and worship together (outside of Sunday Mornings):

@ Steeton Methodist Church
Prayer and Praise on the first Thursday of the month, 7pm to 8pm

@ Silsden Methodist Church
Prayer gathering, first Monday in the month, 7pm

@ St Peter's Methodist Church, Cross Hills
Weekday Communion Service, first Wednesday in the month, 10am
Prayer Service, St Peter's Cross Hills every Wednesday, 10am
(followed by coffee at 10.30am)

@ Silsden Methodist Church
Praise Service, fourth Sunday in the month, 6pm

@ Bingley Methodist Church
Communion, second Monday in the month, 1pm

@ The New Place
Methodist Way of Life Quiet Reflection, fourth Wednesday each month, 6pm
Evening Cafe Service, third Sunday each month, 5pm

@ Lees Methodist Church
Café Worship, third Sunday in the month, 1pm

@ Cullingworth Methodist Church
second Wednesday in the month
9.30am Prayer
9.45am Communion

@ Silsden Methodist Church
'Born in Song', every Friday, 10.30-11am

Messy Church

2nd Tuesday of the month:
Bingley Messy Church
3.45-5.30pm
Silsden Messy Church
3:30 – 5:30pm

3rd Saturday of the month:
The Eldwick Church
Saturday Church
1-2.30pm
(bring a packed lunch and eat together 12-1pm)

Saturday Church
THE ELDWICK CHURCH

'Messy Church logo © Bible Reading Fellowship 2021. See messychurch.org.uk'



Airedale Methodist Circuit
in the Yorkshire West District